

NICK J. RAHALL, II
3RD DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
RANKING MEMBER

www.rahall.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4803

February 14, 2014

2307 RAYBURN BUILDING, WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4803
(202) 225-3452

109 MAIN STREET, BECKLEY, WV 25801-4610
(304) 252-5000

845 FIFTH AVENUE, ROOM 152
HUNTINGTON, WV 25701-2086
(304) 522-NICK

601 FEDERAL STREET, ROOM 1005
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701-3033
(304) 325-6222

220 DINGESS STREET
LOGAN, WV 25601
(304) 752-4934

Mr. David McIntosh
Associate Administrator for Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest, Room 3426 ARN
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. McIntosh:

I write in support of the application that the West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Brownfields Site-Specific Hazardous Assessment Grant program. If awarded funding, the DEP intends to utilize the grant to provide medical monitoring, community involvement, and property assessment resources for the communities impacted by the recent chemical spill into the Elk River.

The chemical spill by Freedom Industries, which occurred on January 9, has had a widespread and devastating impact on southern West Virginia. The spill, which left an estimated 300,000 people without drinking water for more than a week, remains a serious problem for our state.

With increasing distrust over the safety of the water supply and the limited information available, it is essential that all resources necessary be made available to protect the health and safety of our citizens. There is palpable anxiety and frustration among those affected, and it is clear that additional federal support from all levels is necessary.

I hope that the EPA will provide the DEP's application every consideration. I would appreciate your keeping me updated on the status of the application as it undergoes review. Should you require additional information about the application or the chemical spill, I hope that you will contact me.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter of importance to me and my constituents.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II
Member of Congress

NJR/cw
Enclosure

Type of Grant: FY14 EPA Brownfields Hazardous Assessment Site Specific Grant

RFP NO: EPA-OSWER-OBLR-13-05

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NO.: 66.818

Brief Description of Grant Opportunity:

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites through an annual grant request

Grant Applicant: WVDEP

Funding Agency: U.S. EPA

Grant Summary

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) is applying for a \$350,000 EPA Brownfields Site-Specific Hazardous Assessment Grant to provide funding for community involvement, medical monitoring, and property assessment resources for the communities impacted by the chemical spill on the Elk River which left 300,000 residents without drinking water for over a week.

Amount of Request: **\$350,000**

Project Period: **3 years**

Submittal Due Date: **January 22, 2014**

Date Submitted: **January 22, 2014**

Anticipated Award Date: **Summer 2014**